

# Students Reinventing Cities Johannesburg

Share your vision to  
transform urban spaces  
into green & thriving  
neighbourhoods.



# Webinar Agenda

## 1. Welcome & Introduction (5')

## 2. Competition Framework (20')

Ellie White | Reinventing Cities Project Officer, C40  
Cities

## 3. Site Presentation (20')

Matimba Ngobeni | City Planner, City of  
Johannesburg

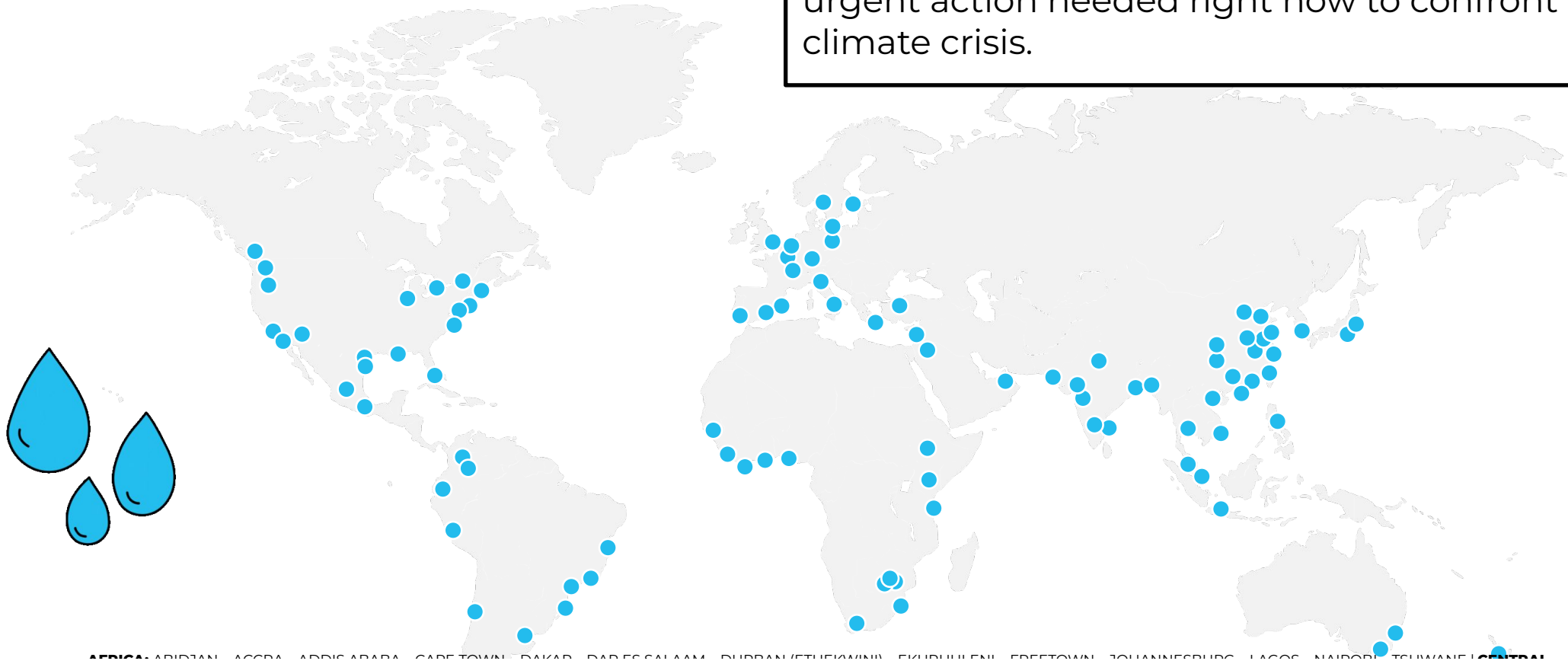
## 4. Q&A (15')



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# C40 Cities

C40 is a network of mayors of **nearly 100 world-leading cities** collaborating to deliver the urgent action needed right now to confront the climate crisis.



Directly representing just under **600 million** residents.  
Making up more than **20%** of the global economy.



# Why do cities matter?

Cities occupy  
**2%**  
of the world's  
landmass

Cities consume  
around  
**75%**  
of the world's  
energy

Cities  
create over  
**70%**  
of energy-related  
greenhouse gas  
emissions

Cities  
generate over  
**80%**  
of the  
world's GDP



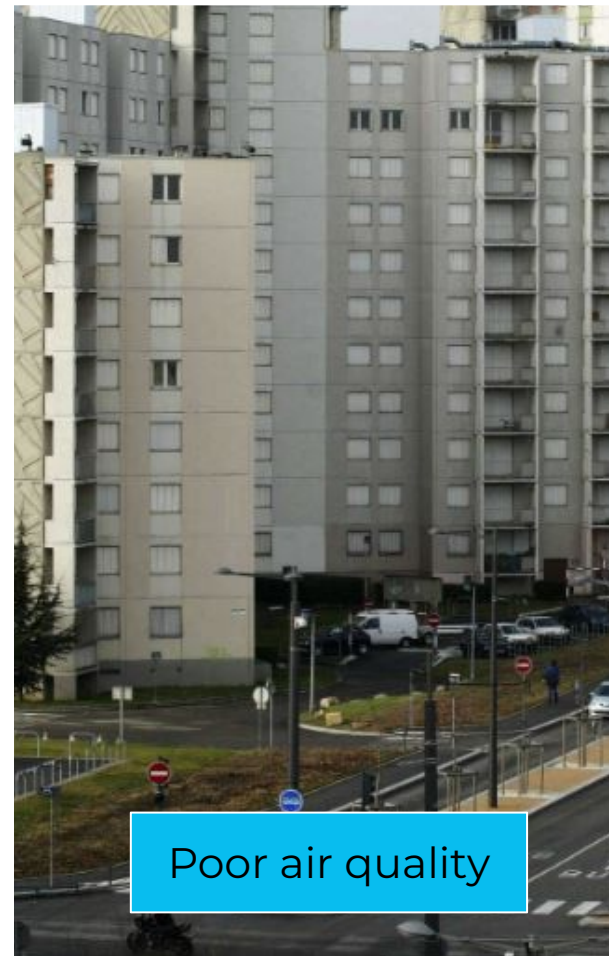
The urban model of the 20th Century led to the development of car-oriented public spaces, specialisation of neighbourhoods and urban sprawl. **Cities are seeking new design models to transform urban life.**



Poor quality of life



Long commutes



Poor air quality



Lack of facilities





**Integrated spatial planning** for more compact and efficient urban growth, through **proximity, mixed use & Transit-Oriented Development**, could **reduce greenhouse gas emissions** by **23-26% by 2050**.

*IPCC, April 2022*



# What is Students Reinventing Cities?

An international **competition** that celebrates innovative proposals that **reduce emissions and improve quality of life**.

For **university students** (all ages & disciplines) & **youth (18-28)** to form multi-disciplinary teams and **collaborate with cities**.

To reimagine urban spaces into **green & thriving neighbourhoods**, aligning with **city priorities**.



# How does it work?



**Cities identify sites they would like to transform & revitalize**

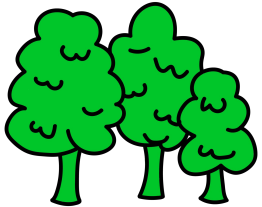
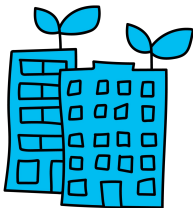


**C40 organises the international competition**



**Youth form teams and submit their best proposals to regenerate the urban areas**

8



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## Who can apply?

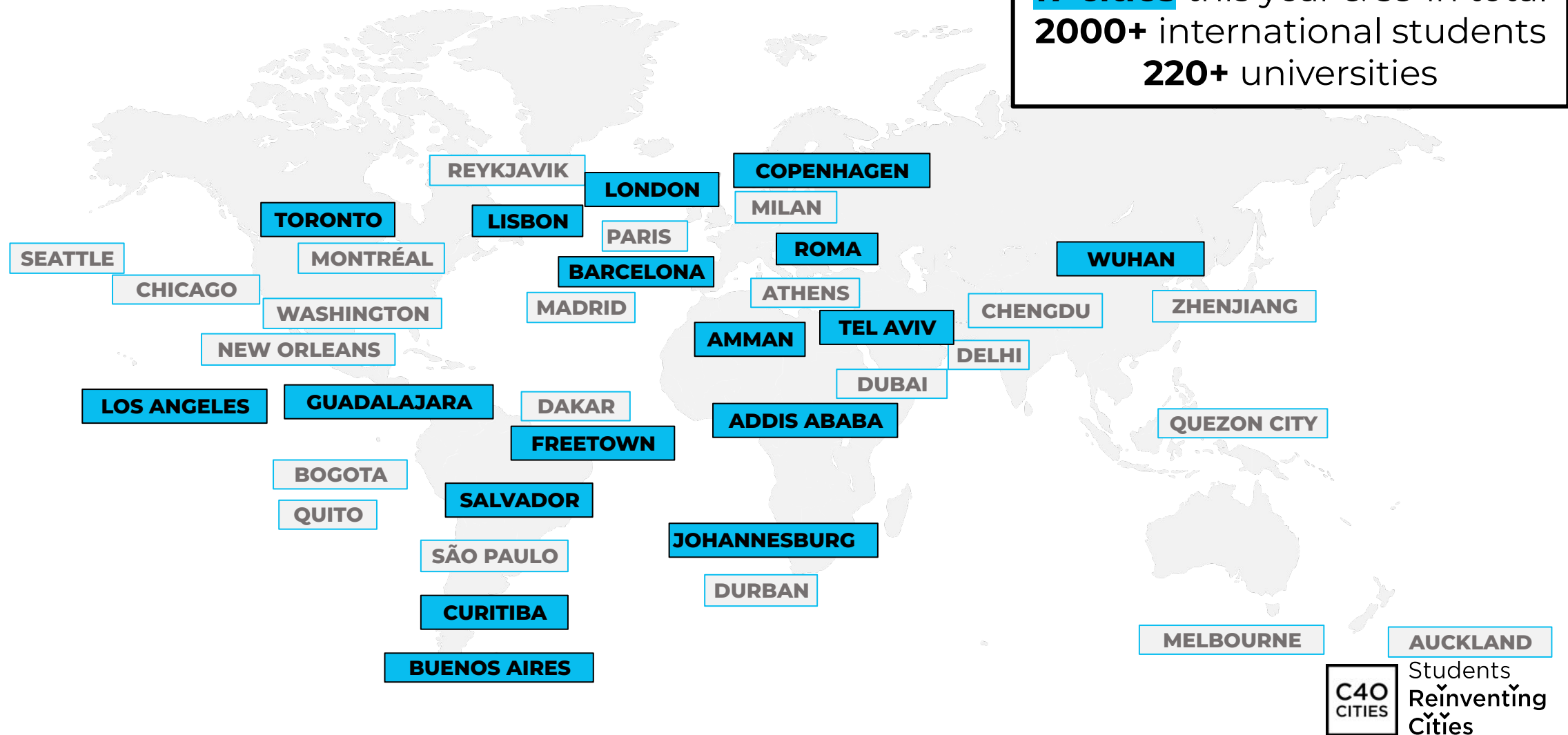
- **University students** of any age & discipline (*registered in 2023/24 academic year*).
- **Young people** (18-28).
- **Local** and **international** participants.
- Mixed & **multidisciplinary** teams highly encouraged.
- No maximum number of team members.





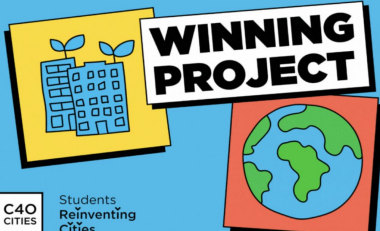
# A growing global movement

**3 editions**  
**17 cities** this year & 39 in total  
**2000+** international students  
**220+** universities



# Global success of the competition

A global competition for students to share their vision for green & thriving neighbourhoods

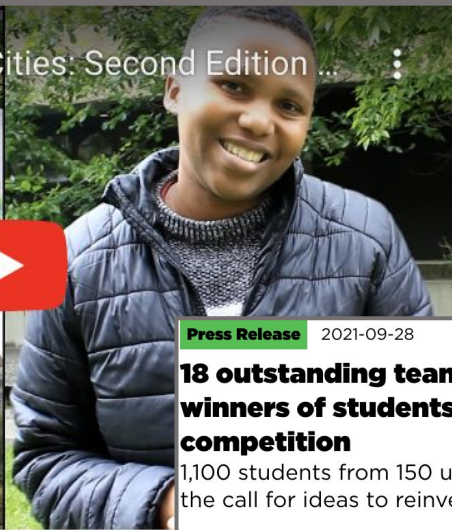
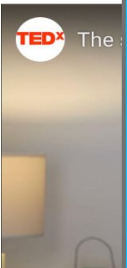


WORLD ARCHITECTURE NEWS

## Students Reinventing Cities: C40 Cities competition to combat climate change

Teams of university students will share their vision for transforming 18 city neighbourhoods to deliver a green and just recovery from the COVID-19 crisis

## TEDx Students Reinventing Cities



Press Release 2021-09-28

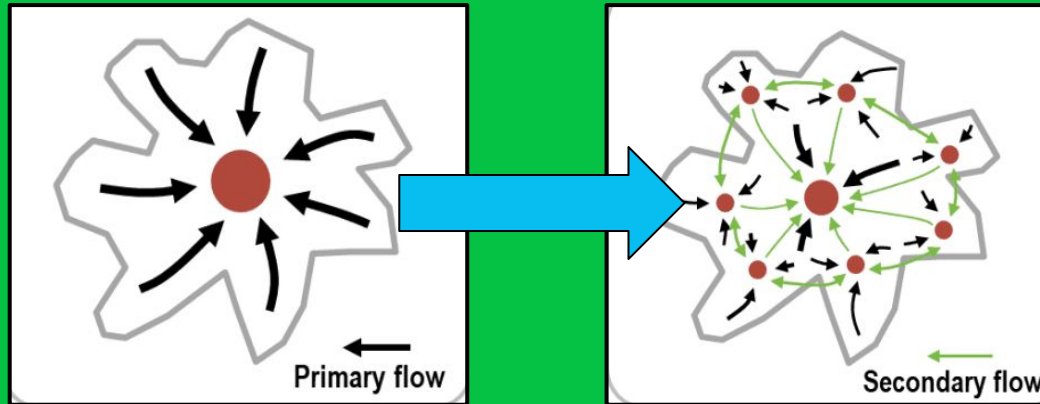
### 18 outstanding teams announced as winners of students reinventing cities competition

1,100 students from 150 universities respond to the call for ideas to reinvent parts of their cities.





# The Proximity Approach



**Monocentric**

**Polycentric**

**Mix of people** and a wide range of housing choices.

**Mix of uses** with integrated local amenities and services.

**Public spaces** that are designed around the needs of the people.

**15 minute City**  
*Paris, Milan, Rome*

**15-minute Community Life Circle**  
*Chengdu*

**Superblock**  
*Barcelona*

**20-minute Neighbourhood**  
*Melbourne*

**Complete Neighbourhood**  
*Portland*

**Wellbeing City**  
*Buenos Aires*

**Vital Neighbourhood**  
*Bogota*

**Liveable Neighbourhood**  
*Glasgow*

**And many more...**



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# Competition Framework

Designing **Green & Thriving Neighbourhoods**, a **cross-sectoral** & **holistic** design approach that maximises **environmental & social benefits**.

Advocating the **proximity model** - a model of **polycentric city** made of multiple **complete neighbourhoods**.

  
Green economy

  
Complete neighbourhood

  
People-centred streets & mobility

  
Sustainable living

**GREEN**  
Pathway to near-zero emissions

**THRIVING**  
Resilient & people-centred place

  
Connected places

  
Green spaces & climate resilience

  
A place for everyone

  
Circular resources

  
Green energy & buildings

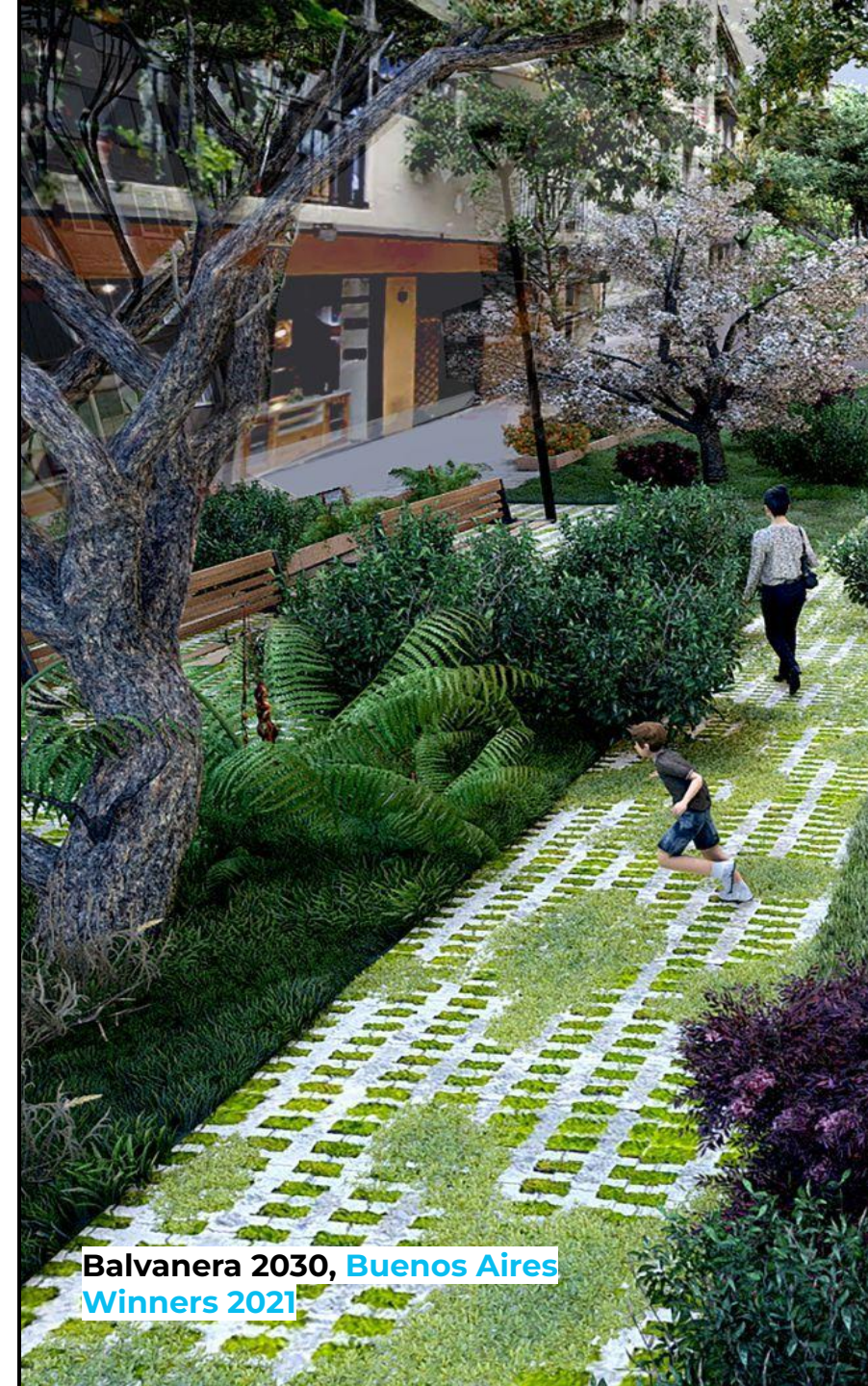
  
Clean construction



# Develop proposals to reimagine an urban area considering:

<b>City Priorities</b>	Align with city's <b>Climate Action Plan</b> & <b>redevelopment expectations</b>
<b>Green &amp; Thriving Solutions</b>	Solutions to <b>reduce emissions</b> & improve <b>quality of life</b>
<b>Quality of Team</b>	<b>Design approach</b> , variety of expertise, work with stakeholders & additional research
<b>Feasibility</b>	Consider <b>cost, technicality, &amp; timeline</b>

Reinventing  
Cities



Balvanera 2030, **Buenos Aires**  
Winners 2021



# What's required in your proposal

Description of the team

Explain how team worked together

**Use template**

**Updated Team Form**

Design concept

Environmental assessment

Analysis of benefits

**10 pages**

**Project Proposal**

**1** digital illustration board

**3** high-res images/drawings

**Graphic Presentation**

Budget, timeframes & challenges

Compliance with local regulations

Stakeholders & responsibilities

**3 pages**

**Implementation Plan**

# Winning teams awards

**Official certificate** signed by the Mayor & Executive Director of C40

Receive coverage in local & global **communication campaigns**

**Present work & connect** with city officials & leading sectors

Receive **city-specific prizes** (e.g implementation consideration, internships, exhibitions)



# Competition Documentation

**Regulations & Guidance**  
(Application Guidelines page)

**Site Form + Dataroom**  
(Sites in competition page)



**C40 CITIES** Students Reinventing Cities

## Students Reinventing Cities

A global competition for universities and students to share their vision for green & thriving neighbourhoods.

### Regulations for the Competition

#### Table of Contents

- Foreword
- Objectives
- Structure of the competition
- Calendar
- Team Composition
- The 10 Principles for a Green & Thriving Neighbourhood
- Submission
- Evaluation Criteria and Juries
- Awards

**C40 CITIES** Students Reinventing Cities

## Students Reinventing Cities

Guidance to Design a Green and Thriving Neighbourhood



**Reinventing Cities**

### Marlboro Station, Johannesburg

South Africa, 2000

The selected site, Portion 1 of the Remaining Extent of the Farm Bergvallei 37 IR, is owned by the City of Johannesburg and approximately 14 hectares in extent. The Jukskei River borders the site's western edge, whilst the Marlboro Gautrain Station on the southern edge.

The site is currently undeveloped, however, many informal settlements have developed along the river banks. Flooding and river pollution is one of the biggest challenges affecting these settlements.

The subject site is situated on the corner of the N3 Highway and Marlboro Drive. It is approximately 6.2km east of Sandton CBD and 20 km north east of Johannesburg CBD. It is located in close proximity to the well-known township of Alexandra to the south and 6.5km east of the affluent residential area of Sandown.



Figure 1) Site Boundaries - City of Johannesburg

**Approx. site area:** Portion 1 of the Remaining Extent of the Farm Bergvallei 37 IR is approximately 14.15 hectares in extent.

**Key Information:** The site is within the Greater Alexandra Development Area which has a population of more than 231 900 people and 82 840 households. The average household size is 2.8 (3 people/dwelling unit).

**Priority areas & main expectations:** Proposals should seek to reinvent the area into a green and thriving TOD, specifically considering the following priorities and focus areas:

Since the site is located close to the train station and major road interchange, a Transport Oriented Development may be a catalyst to address developmental challenges faced by the surrounding urban areas of Marlboro, Kelvin and Alexandra such as the prominent housing backlogs, congestion, river pollution, flooding, growing informal settlements and land invasion.

The Frankenwald Estate, a large affordable housing development, borders the subject area's northern edge. Hence the site is earmarked as an underutilised, well-served pocket of land on which significant opportunities for all income groups can be realised. The area also has a huge potential to be transformed into a Transit Development (TOD) in order to link transport hubs with affordable housing opportunities that have access to social facilities and a public open space.

- Improve the area's connectivity to public transport (Gautrain station)
- Develop social and affordable housing.
- Provide social and community facilities.
- Enhance the public open space system.
- Implement climate change adaptation measures to mitigate impacts of flooding and poor water, to improve water security.

## Documentation

[ENG] STUDENTS REINVENTING CITIES - JOHANNESBURG SITE FORM

## Dataroom Access

Download specific documents for this site

OPEN DATAROOM

Visit [www.c40reinventingcities.org/en/students/](http://www.c40reinventingcities.org/en/students/)

**C40 CITIES**



- › HOME
- › SITES IN COMPETITION 2023/24
- › APPLICATION GUIDELINES
- › FAQ
- › PREVIOUS WINNING PROJECTS
- › MANIFESTO

# Students Reinventing Cities

2023/24 competition now live

Common documents

## Documentation

[ENG] STUDENTS REINVENTING CITIES\_TEAM FORM (PHASE 1)

[ENG] STUDENTS REINVENTING CITIES - REGULATIONS

[ENG] GUIDANCE TO DESIGN A GREEN AND THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOOD

For each site: Site Form, Dataroom & Question Box

## Documentation

STUDENTS REINVENTING CITIES - SITE FORM

## Dataroom Access

Download specific documents for this site

OPEN DATAROOM

## Questions?

If you have a question or would like more details on the site and the Students Reinventing Cities competition, please use the form below. You will receive a response via email.

First name \*

Last name \*

E-mail \*

# Competition Timeline

Exceptions for London  
& Buenos Aires

## Competition Launch

Info about all sites & cities live on the website. Team Registration open.

November 2023

21 March 2024

## Teams Registration Deadline

Students form teams and register online.

## Project Submission Deadline

Teams submit a completed proposal.

20 June 2024

July 2024

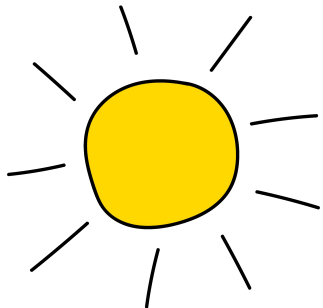
## Selection of winning projects

City, C40 and local experts form a jury to select the winning team.

## Announcement of winners

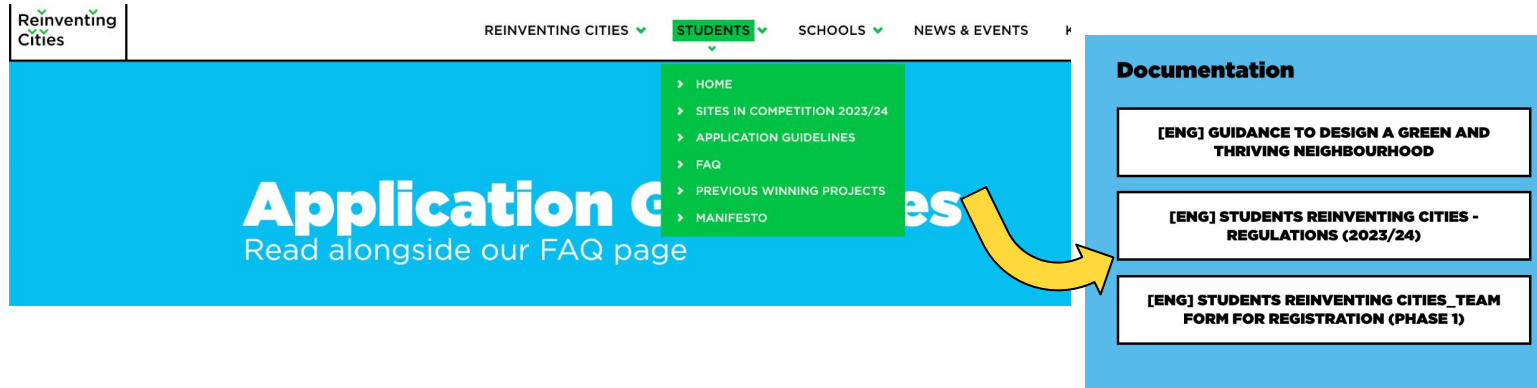
Prizes and media coverage.

September 2024





# Register your team



21 March 2024

Download and fill out the team form

➤ **Marlboro Station**  
Johannesburg, South Africa

**REGISTER YOUR TEAM** ➤  
Registration closes on Thursday 21 March 2024 - 5PM UTC

Upload the form via the registration portal



**A Green & Just future is  
the future we want.**



**Join the Students  
Reinventing Cities Network**

[c40reinventingcities.org](https://c40reinventingcities.org)





# City of Johannesburg: Marlboro Station and Surrounds



Joburg x C40 Cities: Students Reinventing Cities Competition  
Development Planning: City Transformation & Spatial Planning  
MARCH 2024

# Presentation Outline



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- Site introduction
- Key challenges facing the area
- City's expectations for redevelopment
- Material available online for students to consult
- Next steps & prize opportunities

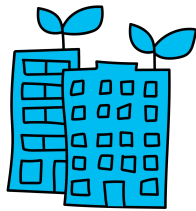


# C40 Cities Competition

How does it work?



**Cities identify sites  
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revitalize**



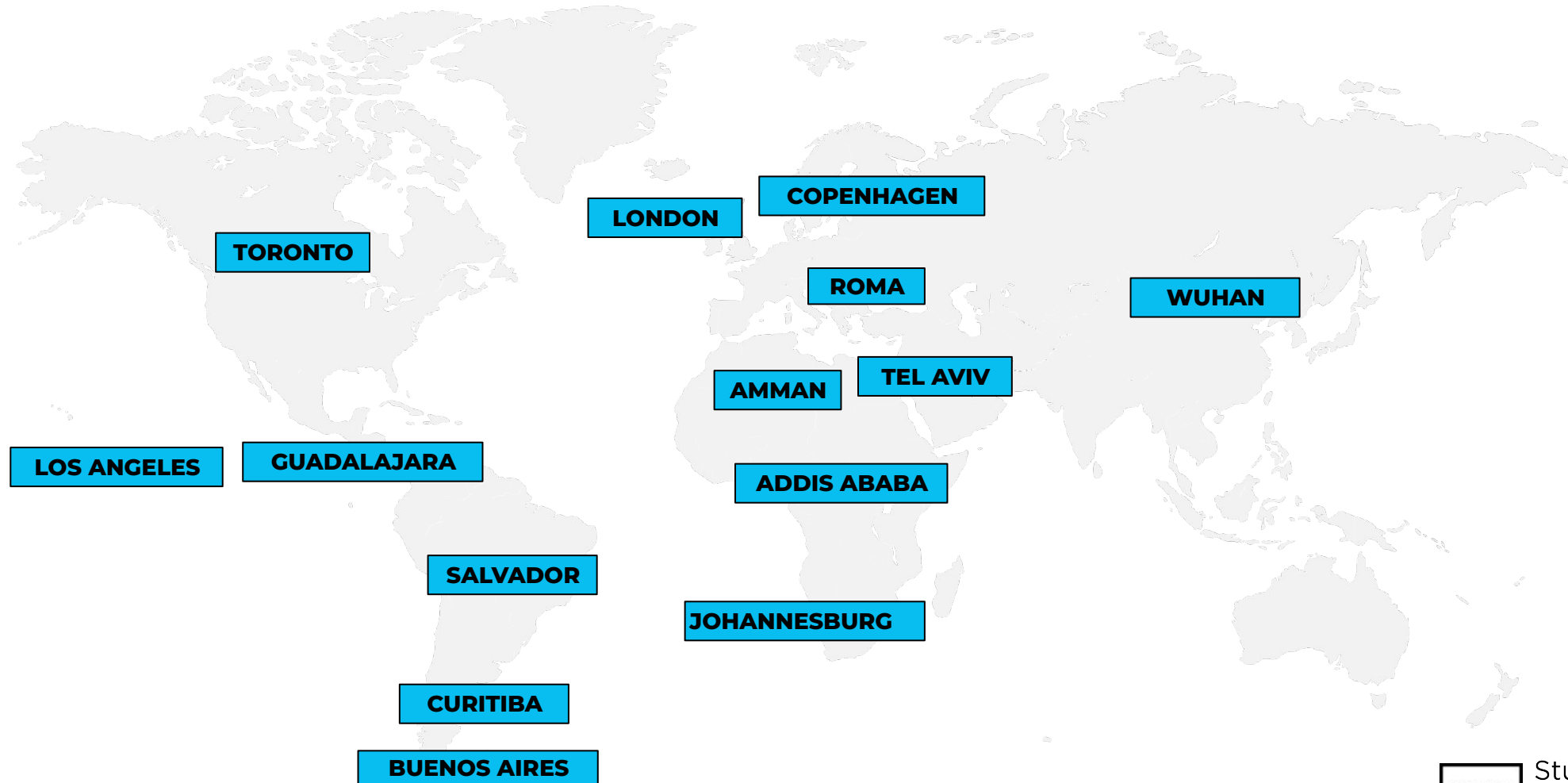


# Site Introduction

## Contextualisation



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# Site Introduction

## Marlboro Station and surrounds



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The Jukskei River borders the site's western edge, whilst the Marlboro Gautrain Station on the southern edge.

Gautrain infrastructure is a massive investment that needs to be supported by appropriate densities and intensity.

The subject site is situated on the corner of the N3 Highway and Marlboro Drive. It is approximately 6.2km east of Sandton CBD and 20 km northeast of Johannesburg CBD. It is located in close proximity to the well-known township of Alexandra to the south.



# Site Introduction

## Marlboro Station and surrounds

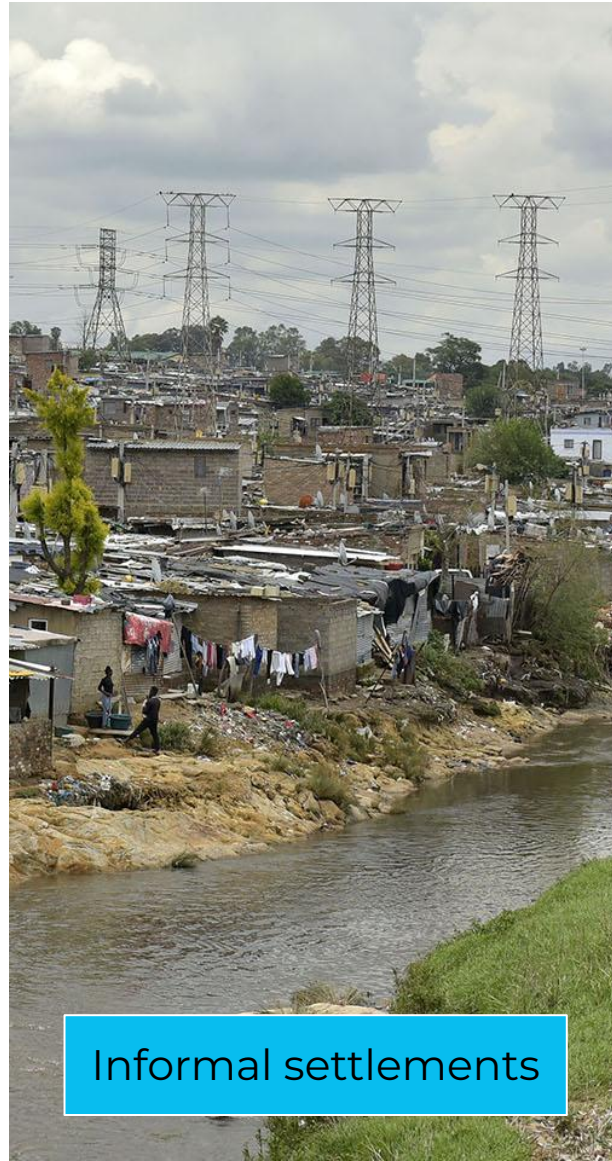




# Key Challenges

Spatial, socio-economic and environmental

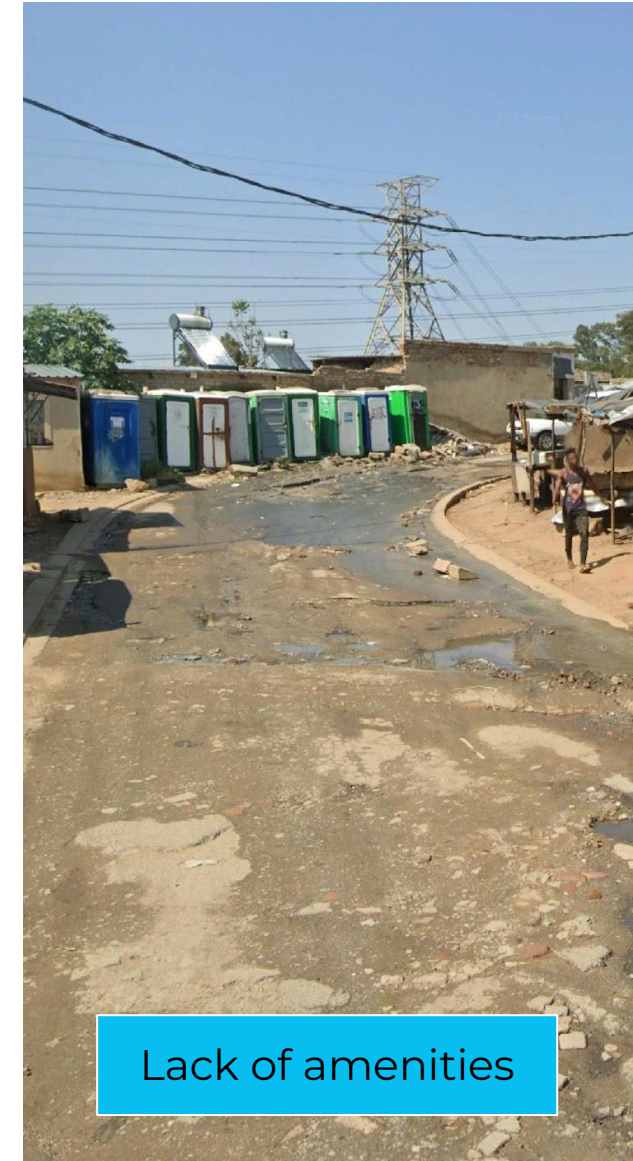
The study area is currently faced with challenges such as growing informal settlements in flood-prone areas, land invasion, river pollution, a lack of walkable routes, inadequate housing and amenities, poverty, and environmental degradation.



Informal settlements



River pollution



Lack of amenities



# City's Expectations: Redevelopment options

Students are expected to design green and thriving neighbourhoods that maximise environmental and social benefits – *CoJ CAP (2021)*.

The overall design entries must advocate for a transit-oriented, polycentric city development model, with complete and self-reliant neighbourhoods – *CoJ SDF (2016)*.

In a nutshell, Joburg explores how a TOD with an emphasis on climate change resilience may be a catalyst to address challenges faced by the area.



# Material Available Online

## C40 Cities Website



Students  
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Cities

**Competition Framework**

**Maps and Cadastral Boundaries**

**Site Form**

**Urban Planning Documents and Guidelines**

**Additional Planning Documents**

[Students Reinventing Cities | Reinventing Cities \(c40reinventingcities.org\)](http://c40reinventingcities.org)

# Next Steps

## Timeline and milestones



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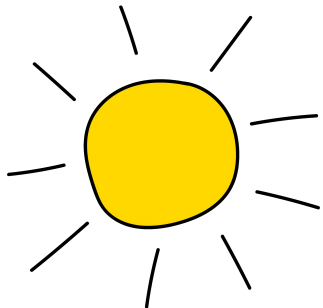
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September 2024





# Prizes and Recognitions

## Winning projects

**Official certificate** signed by the Mayor  
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Receive coverage in local & global  
**communication campaigns**

**Present work & connect** with City  
officials & leading sectors

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Eco-Barrio 7 de Agosto, Bogota winning team

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**Thank You!**